

# BATTLE OF REAMS'S STATION DESCRIBED BY PARTICIPANT

**Confederates Anxious to Get  
Guns in Hands of Northern  
Enemies.**

**REFUGEE SHOWS GREAT JOY  
Oblivious of Danger, She Greets  
Virginians Who Are Pur-  
suing Yankees.**



MARY E. WALKER  
AS SHE APPEARED  
FIFTY YEARS AGO

until properly exchanged as the men were.

**She Is Finally Exchanged.**

About that time there came a hitch in the matter of exchanging prisoners, and for several months there were no exchanges. Finally, in August, 1864, exchanging was resumed on a small scale, and the flag of truce boats again commenced to run from Richmond down the James River. The exchange of general prisoners sent down the river for exchange was Dr. Mary E. Walker. This took place on August 15, 1864, and on the morning of the 15th the Richmond Dispatch contained a notice of the fact, and that notice was reproduced in "What Was News Fifty Years Ago" in The Times-Dispatch of the 15th of that month.

Some time later Dr. Walker, at her request, sent a copy of The Times-Dispatch to the 15th instant, and she, believing it was sent from this office, wrote as follows:

"Troy, N. Y., August 26, 1814.—To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

"Dear Sir.—Yours of August 15, 1814, is thankfully received. I wish, even after fifty years, that you correct an error which I made in your costume. It was the American reform costume that had trousers like men, but not men's as men's clothes worn by women can be men's clothes."

"I am pleased with your editorial upon 'Ted' and 'Idee.' The greatest idea Ted Roosevelt ever had was the successful one of getting into the White House the first time at poor McKinley's expense."

"When my murderer's father was asked 'why did your son wish to kill the President?' he replied: 'An old man was selected to do the job, but he backed out, and my son went'."

"It is well known that no anarchist ever got out of a designation, unless it is a 'hired job.'

"Yours truly,

MARY E. WALKER, M. D.

The following correspondence is from the files of the Richmond Dispatch:

(From the Richmond Dispatch, Friday, April 22, 1864.)

**Female Surgeon.**

Dr. Mary E. Walker, assistant surgeon in the Federal Army of Tennessee, served a few days ago near Tullahoma, Tenn., in the angle between us and Hill, but moving on we met a very determined force along the enemy's works, but passing the fortifications, who were watching us from the hillside, and our movement, and by a battery of our artillery pushing up in the very face of the fire, we went forward and soon scaled the works. We then captured a number of flags and two prisoners for every man taken into the fort.

Many were permitted to add that I am positive of the good character of King and Queen and that I was especially proud that day of two sons of that county, our P. E. Lipscomb, who was for a number of years doorkeeper of the House of Delegates, and who lost his life in the fight, and the other, Mr. DeShazo, who is still living, who had just become a member of the Essex Cavalry, who behaved with distinguished gallantry, and no one could have done more so.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL.  
Bowie's Wharf, Va., August 29, 1814.

SHE ASKS CORRECTION  
FIFTY YEARS AFTER WAR

Dr. Mary E. Walker says she did not wear men's clothing, but woman's Reform Costume.

WRITES INTERESTING LETTER

DURING CIVIL WAR SHE WAS CAPTURED BY CONFEDERATE FORCES, BROUGHT TO RICHMOND AND IMPRISONED AS SPY. CORRECTION IS HEREBY GIVEN.

The famous Dr. Mary E. Walker, whose history is well known to readers of newspapers, is now an aged woman, and lives quietly at her home in Oswego, N. Y.

As has been called to mind of late in "What Was News Fifty Years Ago" in this paper, Dr. Walker was a surgeon in the Fifty-second Ohio Regiment during the War Between the States, and was captured by the Confederates at Tunnel Hill near Dalton, Ga., by the men of General Johnston's army. She claimed that she was a surgeon attending the wounded on what was or should be neutral ground, and therefore ought to be set free. Because of the fact that she was attested in what was considered man's clothing, and because of the further fact that captors had never before heard of a female doctor or surgeon, her story was not believed. In fact, she was thought to be a dangerous spy, for she was really captured within the Confederate lines. It was thought advisable to send her on to Richmond for investigation.

Dr. Walker reached here as a prisoner on April 21, 1864, and her appearance created a sensation. After investigation by the Confederate authorities it was found she was indeed a spy, and was what she claimed to be. She was offered her freedom and safe conduct across the lines under a flag of truce. This she declined, saying she was of the United States army, was a prisoner of war, and would run the same course as was provided for men—that is, she would remain in prison

and die shortly after the meeting.

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